

- Another U.S. appeals court backs cable's 1st Amendment claims
- Home dish industry gains support in Congress
- USCI shuts down
- Southern California operators in big ad push

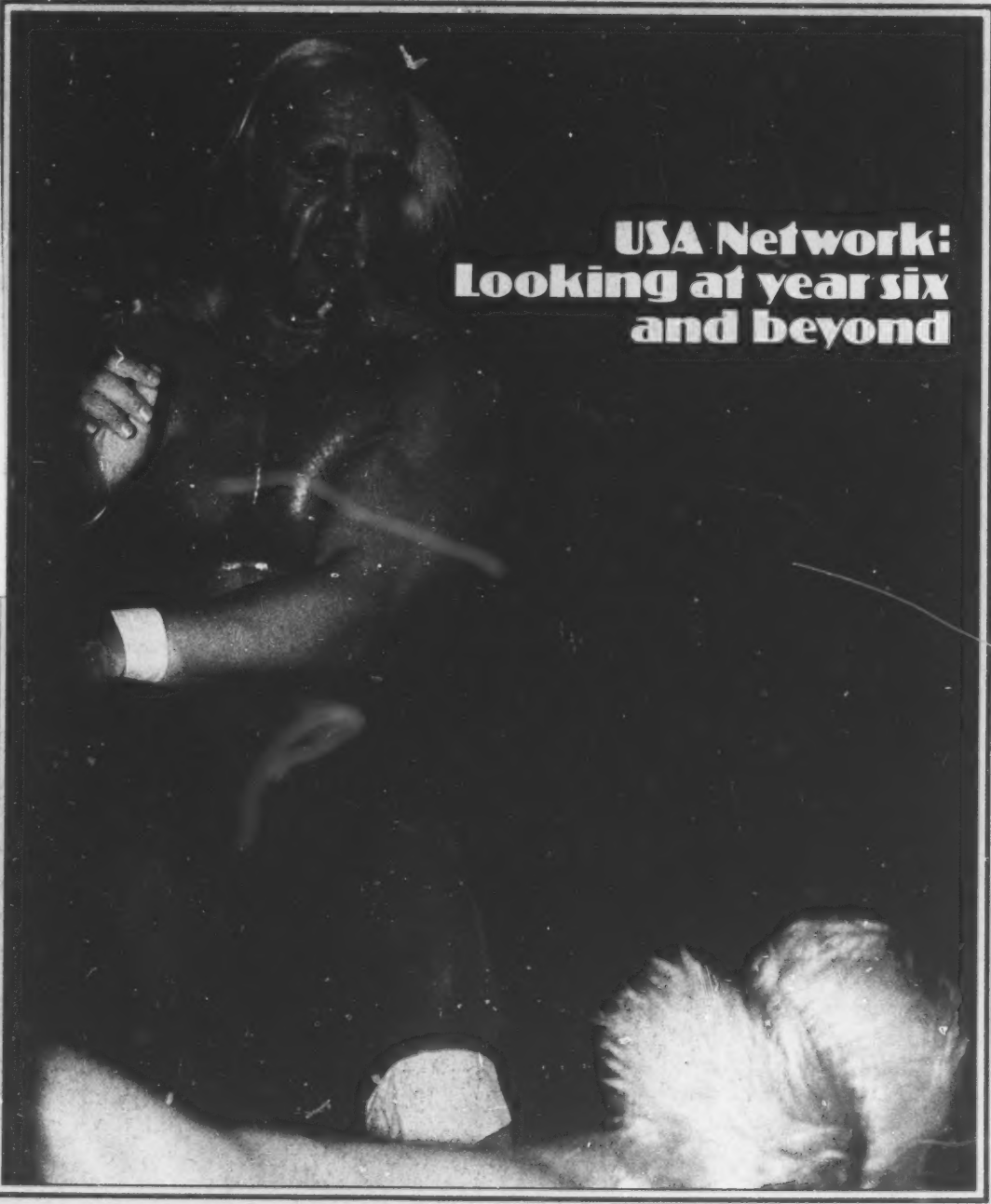
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Roundtable

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**USA Network:
Looking at year six
and beyond**

Leading the week.....11-22

Appeals court backs TCI

The U.S. Appeals Court rules Tele-Communications Inc. is entitled to protection under the First and Fifth Amendments in a franchising dispute with the U.S. Air Force.

Southern Cal. consortium to launch TV campaign

The Southern California Cable Television Marketing Council, a consortium of operators and programmers, is set to kick off a major television campaign offering a money-back guarantee to attract new subscribers.

End appears imminent for DBS subscriber system

With transmissions curtailed and negotiations with prospective buyer Tele-Communications Inc. on the verge of breaking down, the shutdown of United Satellite Communications Inc. appears imminent.

New bill regulates prices

Rep. William Tauzin, D-La., introduces a bill allowing the Federal Communications Commission to regulate fees paid by backyard dish owners for scrambled signals.

Canadian convention

Canadian cable executives assemble in Toronto for their annual three-day conference amid recent government initiatives holding important consequences for the industry.

Times Mirror-Storer swap

The U.S. Justice Department announces it will not attempt to block the proposed swap of cable television systems between Times Mirror and Storer Communications, thereby establishing new policy guidelines to remove antitrust barriers from the merger of systems.

United Cable to buy Times Mirror system

United Cable Television will purchase Times Mirror's Hartford, Conn., cable system, making the MSO the 10th largest in the country, with a total of 837,000 subscribers.

Storer appeals to FCC

Storer Communications appeals to the Federal Communications Commission to reverse a decision siding with a group seeking to take control of the company and liquidate its assets.

C-SPAN marks sixth year

The C-SPAN board of directors marks its sixth anniversary and votes to retain current officers, expand its board by one seat and delay C-SPAN's move to Washington.

Trimming must-carry rules

A congressman introduces a bill in the House that would eliminate a portion of the Federal Communications Commission's must-carry rules by denying must-carry status to some broadcast stations.

Control Data considers sale

Control Data thinks about selling its 60 percent equity in Magnicom.

USA Net's anniversary: Cause for celebration

With a 25 to 30 percent surge in advertising revenues projected for 1985, USA Network marks its fifth anniversary this week in the midst of an effort to strengthen its prime-time product and other elements of the channel's schedule.

Wall Street analysts respond to Turner takeover talk

Financial analysts offer a wide variety of opinions in response to reports of Ted Turner attempting to take over CBS.

Farrow calls court ruling cable triumph

Attorney Harold Farrow calls a district court judge's decision another victory for the cable industry's claims as a First Amendment speaker; an attorney for the city of Santa Cruz, Calif., disagrees.

Theft arrests continue

Nassau County police and Cablevision Systems Corp.'s combined efforts produces three more cable theft arrests.



About the cover

Hulk Hogan has his way with an opponent in a pro wrestling match. "The Hulkster" is the World Wrestling Federation champ and one of many featured on USA Network's *Prime Time Wrestling* and *Wrestling TNT*.

Feature story

Taking stock of cable

In the first of a two-part roundtable discussion, four financial experts with varying backgrounds share their thoughts with *CableVision* on the cable television industry's primary sources of capital funding and assess its prospects for wiring the remainder of uncabled urban markets.

Review 23

The Secret Agent opens The Learning Channel's new eight-part series *Agenda*. It's a documentary about the herbicide Agent Orange used during the Vietnam War and, in the words of Reviewer Robert DiMatteo, an "unspeakably upsetting portrait of American corporate and governmental irresponsibility."

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Franchising calendar

This chart examines the franchise status of communities since March 1985.

California

Chino—BuenaVision franchise agreement revoked. Accepting proposals. (12,000 homes).
 Claremont—RFP revised and sent out. Bids due May 6, 1985. (9,800 homes).
 East Yolo—reviewing applications from Sonic Cable, Yolo Cable TV, Yolo Cable Communications Co. and Pacific Federal Communications (10,000 homes).
 La Puente—award to United Cable 11/28/84 (8,600 homes).
 Los Altos—award to United Cable 12/84 (9,000 homes).
 Palo Alto—negotiating with Cable Communications Co-op of Palo Alto and City Cable Partners Inc. until April (23,000 homes).
 Rosemead—award to Falcon Communications 2/26/85 (14,000 homes).
 South Morrovia—award to Falcon Communications 9/18 (5,400 homes).
 Yorba Linda—deadline extended for statements of interest (12,000 homes).

Delaware

Wilmington—negotiating with Rollins Cable (140,000 homes).

District of Columbia

Washington, D.C.—award to District Cablevision 7/10/84 (254,000 homes).

Illinois

Chicago—Area I award to Communications and Cable (300,000 homes).
 Countryside—award to Cablevision of Chicago 6/13/84 (2,200 homes).
 Elmwood Park—award to Continental Cable 12/17/84 (9,500 homes).
 Naperville—award to Rite Cable Co. of Illinois Limited. Rite Cable of Illinois bid for unincorporated areas of DuPage County. (17,500 homes).
 St. Charles, Geneva—award to Centel 7/2/84 (10,000 homes).
 Wheaton—award to Centel 7/2/84 (16,000 homes).
 Winnetka—survey showed interest in cable insufficient to warrant franchise.
 Woodbridge—terminated franchising process (260 homes).

Kentucky

Fulton—award to TCI 12/13/84 (2,400 homes).
 Loretto—terminated franchise process.

Maryland

Baltimore—award to United Cable 12/19/84 (302,000 homes).

Massachusetts

Belchertown—negotiating with Clearview Cablevision.
 Belmont—accepting proposals until April 8, 1985 (2,760 homes).
 Berkley, Dighton, Freetown—award to Continental Cablevision.
 Boxborough—award to Nashoba 1/7/85 (3,100 homes).
 Cambridge—award to American Cable Systems of Cambridge 3/22/85 (43,000 homes).
 Danvers—award to Nashoba 1/85 (8,600 homes).
 East Bridgewater—award to Continental Cable 12/3/84 (2,500 homes).
 Groton—award to United Video 2/25.
 Hamilton and Wenham—award to Continental Cable 3/5/84 (2,300 homes).
 Holden—award to Massachusetts Cablevision Systems Inc. 7/84 (4,000 homes).
 Holliston—award to Massachusetts Cablevision Systems Inc. 7/84 (3,922 homes).
 Lincoln—short franchise process re-initiated. Proposals due 5/1/85.
 Marblehead—award to Continental Cable 12/84.
 Medfield—preliminary award to Massachusetts Cablevision Systems 10/84 (3,400 homes).
 Mendon—award to Massachusetts Cablevision Systems 1/7 (1,200 homes).
 Middleborough—award to Continental Cablevision 5/14/84 (3,834 homes).
 Nahant—accepting proposals on March 28 (1,433 homes).
 Sandwich—award to Campbell Communications (5,000 homes).
 Seekonk—Seekonk Cable appealed selectman's decision to award Massachusetts Cable. Hearing held 3/26/85, awaiting final decision. (6,000 homes).
 Shirley—provisional license granted to Nashoba Communications 10/29/84 (1,827 homes).

Southborough—provisional license to Greater Worcester Cablevision (2,000 homes).
 Sterling—award to Wachusett Cablevision (2,000 homes).
 Stow—provisional license to Adams-Russell 9/84 (1,600 homes).
 Townsend—accepting applications until 4/1/85 (2,306 homes).
 Wayland—award to Continental Cablevision 6/4/84 (3,500 homes).
 Westminster—preliminary award to Adams-Russell; Adams-Russell requested revision of rate structure.
 Weston—award to Continental Cable Cooperative 8/6/84 (3,000 homes).
 Westport—award to United Cablevision Funding 9/4/84 (5,500 homes).

Michigan

Almont—award to Michigan Cable 11/84.
 Atlas—award to Michigan Cable 8/84.
 Brandon—award to Michigan Cable 11/84.
 Brown City—award to Pioneer Cablevision.
 Cedar Creek—award to Horizon Cable 7/84.
 Dalton—award to Horizon Cable 7/84.
 Goodrich—award to Michigan Cable 9/84.
 Lake Orion, Orion Twp—final award to Tribune-United 12/27/84 (7,800 homes).
 North Branch—award to Michigan Cable 8/84.
 Thorntonville—award to Michigan Cable.
 Waconia—award to Westel 12/18/84 (1,024 homes).
 Windom—approved municipal ownership, launched 2/1/84 (1,875 homes).

Minnesota

Amboy—award to Mid Communications Inc. 7/84 (280 homes).
 Barrett—award to Battellelake Cable 7/84 (165 homes).
 Belle Plaine—award to Dow-Sat of Minnesota 11/9/84 (973 homes).
 Big Lake, Buffalo, Cokato, Dassel, Delano, Elk River, Monticello, Rockford, Watertown, Maple Lake—award to Rite Cable, under construction. (10,200 homes).
 Bird Island—award to North American Communications Corp. 10/84 (566 homes).
 Cannon Falls—award to North American Cable Communications Corp. (1,060 homes).
 Credit River—award to North American Communications Corp. 10/84 (880 homes).
 Eden Valley and Watkins—award to WesTel Inc. 2/84 (640 homes).
 Floodwood—award to Individual Satellite System Inc. 8/84 (325 homes).
 Glenville—award to WesTel 6/84 (275 homes).
 Good Thunder—award to Mid Communications Inc. 7/84 (225 homes).
 Grand Meadow—award to Southern Cablevision Inc. 9/84 (360 homes).
 Hill City—award to Individual Satellite Systems 11/84 (400 homes).
 Hinkley—award to Savage Communications 7/84 (420 homes).
 Hokah—award to Valley Video Systems Inc. 7/84 (270 homes).
 Holdingford—award to WesTel Inc. 2/84 (245 homes).
 Howard Lake—award to WesTel Inc. 8/84 (510 homes).
 Kerkhoven—award to Heritage Communications 7/84 (310 homes).
 Lester Prairie, Winsted—award to Dowden Communications 7/84 (1,000 homes).
 Lindstrom, Stacy—award to Dow-Sat of Minnesota (1,230 homes).
 Mabel—award to Valley Video Systems Inc. 6/84 (325 homes).
 Maple Plain—award to Dow-Sat of Minnesota (481 homes).
 Mapleton—award to WesTel Inc. 8/84 (600 homes).
 Mazeppa—award to Individual Satellite Systems 9/84 (280 homes).
 Medford—award to WesTel Inc. 7/84 (300 homes).
 Montrose—award transferred to Valley View 8/84 (300 homes).
 Morristown—award to Cannon Valley Telecom Inc. 7/84 (250 homes).
 Morton—award to Todd Communications Inc. 5/84 (225 homes).
 Murdock—award to Cavanaugh Cable Co. 6/84 (140 homes).
 New Prague—award to Valley View Cable Inc. 7/84 (1,130 homes).
 Nisswa—award to Interlake Cablevision Inc. 5/84 (1,100 homes).
 Northern Dakota City—preliminary award to Continental (25,000 homes).
 Pierz—award to WesTel Inc. 8/84 (420 homes).

Renville—award to WesTel Inc. 7/84 (600 homes).
 Rite—award to Benton Cooperative Telephone Co. 8/84 (165 homes).
 St. Joseph—award to WesTel Inc. (1,100 homes).
 St. Paul—city wins appeal in favor of Continental Cablevision (111,000 homes).
 Sandstone—award to Savage Communications 9/84 (560 homes).
 Savage—preliminary award to North American Cable Communications 4/85 (1,272 homes).
 Sherburn—award to Rite Cable (10,200 homes).
 Spring Grove—award to Valley Video Systems 8/84 (560 homes).
 Spring Lake—award to North American Communications Corp. 10/84 (920 homes).
 TriCity Cable Commission (Cold Springs, Richmond, Rockville)—award to WesTel Inc. 8/84 (1,200 homes).
 Truman—award to Terril Telephone Co. 5/84 (550 homes).
 Waconia—award to Westel 12/18/84 (1,024 homes).
 Waterville, Elysian—award to WesTel Inc. 8/84 (750 homes).
 Waubeen—award to Harold Investments Inc. 9/84 (150 homes).
 Wendell—award to M & E Cable 4/84 (95 homes).
 West St. Paul, South St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Mendota, Inner Grove Heights, Lilydale, Sifish Lake—preliminary award to Continental Cablevision 6/6/84 (24,032 homes).
 Windom—approved municipal ownership, launched 2/1/84 (1,875 homes).

Missouri

St. Louis—award to STL Cablevision Partners Inc. (75% of city) and St. Louis City Communications (25% of city) 4/11/84 (178,000 homes).

New Hampshire

Keene—received one proposal from Group W. Group W currently under a non-exclusive franchise until 1991. (22,000 homes).
 Manchester—award to United Cable.
 Newton—negotiating with Harron Communications (1,124 homes).
 Sandown—reviewing applications from Continental Cablevision and Harron Communications (800 homes).

New Jersey

Jersey City—moving ahead on municipal ownership despite lawsuit by Controlled Cable originally granted franchise.
 Patterson—reviewing proposals from Marsh Media, Greater Media, Patterson Communications Network, Patterson Cable Services and U.S. Cable and TCI (55,000 homes).

New York

Mt. Upton—terminated franchise process.
 North Salem—award to Community Cable Services 12/84 (1,100 homes).
 Portland—cable committee formed to begin franchise process. Tribune

Cable, Harborview and U.S. Cable sent letters expressing interest (150 homes).

North Carolina

Davie County—award to Summit Cable.
 Jackson—award to Cable East (400 homes).

Ohio

Avon—award to Space Cable of Ohio 4/23/84 (2,000 homes).
 Brooklyn—municipal ownership under consideration (4,000 homes).
 Cleveland—evaluating bids from Royal American Group, Greater Cleveland Cable TV Associates and Northcoast Cable.
 Oberlin—preliminary award to Oberlin Cable Co-op 6/6/84 (2,600 homes).

Oregon

Dunthorpe—no response to RFP.
 Seattle—city is divided into four parts; Group W, Viacom and Seattle Community Cablevision serve overlapping sections of three parts; part IV is beginning franchising process.
 Sylvan—awaiting legal opinion needed for commission to vote on Sylvan Video Cable (1,200 homes).

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia—city is divided into four areas; Area I award to Greater Philadelphia Cablevision; Area II award to Wade Communications; Area III award to Rollins; Area IV award to Comcast 11/84 (each area: 155,000 homes).

Rhode Island

Battleground—negotiating with Cox Cable (1,000 homes).
 Newport (Area 7 includes Middletown, Portsmouth, Tiverton, Little Compton)—award to Bellevue Cablevision Inc.; appealed before Rhode Island Superior Court and Rhode Island Supreme Court (29,500 homes).

Virginia

Manassas—reviewing proposals from Cablevision of Manassas Ltd., Teleset Communications Inc., C4 Media of Manassas Ltd. and City of Manassas Cable (5,510 homes).

Washington

Battle Ground—negotiating with Cox Cable (1,000 homes).

Wisconsin

Hayward—award to Cable TV of Hayward (1,000 homes).
 New Glarus—award to Telephone and Data Systems 7/17/84 (675 homes).
 Waterford—award to Total TV 9/84 (600 homes).

Source: International Thomson Communications Inc.

Franchising in the top 50 markets

Rank	Market	Status of core city	Rank	Market	Status of core city	Rank	Market	Status of core city
1	New York	Manhattan—2-OP, outer boroughs 8-FG	22	Indianapolis	Two systems-OP	46	Charleston/Huntington	Two systems-OP
2	Los Angeles	City is divided into 14 areas (A-n). 11-OP, 3-UC	23	Portland	Three systems-OP	47	Norfolk/Newport News/New Hampton/Portsmouth	Four systems-OP
3	Chicago	City is divided into five areas. Area I-FG, Areas II, III-OP, Areas IV, V-FG	24	Phoenix	Three systems-OP	48	Harrisburg/York/Lebanon/Lancaster	Four systems-OP
4	Philadelphia	City is divided into four areas. Areas I, II, III-IV-FG	25	Hartford	Two systems-OP	49	Wilkes Barre/Scranton	Two systems-OP
5	San Francisco	OP (system to be upgraded)	26	New Haven	OP	50	Albany/Schenectady/Troy	Three systems-OP
6	Boston	OP	27	Cincinnati	OP			
7	Detroit	FG	28	San Diego	Two systems-OP			
8	Washington, D.C.	FG	29	Kansas City	OP			
9	Cleveland	RP	30	Milwaukee	OP			
10	Dallas/Ft. Worth	Two systems-OP	31	Nashville	OP			
11	Houston	Two systems-OP	32	Charlotte	OP			
12	Pittsburgh	OP	33	Buffalo	OP			
13	Miami	OP		Providence	OP/OP			
14	Seattle/Tacoma	City is divided into five parts. (4-OP), (1-BP), Tacoma-OP	34	New Bedford	Two systems-OP			
15	Minneapolis/St. Paul	OP/UC		Orlando	Two systems-OP			
16	Atlanta	OP		Daytona Beach	OP			
17	St. Louis	UC/FG	35	New Orleans	OP			
18	Tampa/St. Petersburg	OP/OP	36	Memphis	OP			
19	Denver	OP	37	Columbus	Four systems-OP			
20	Baltimore	FG	38	Greenville/Asheville/Spartanburg	Three systems-OP			
21	Sacramento/Stockton	OP/OP	39	Grand Rapids/Kalamazoo/Battle Creek	Three systems-OP			
			40	Birmingham	OP			
			41	Raleigh/Durham	Two systems-OP			
			42	Oklahoma City	Two systems-OP			
			43	Louisville	Two systems-OP			
			44	Salt Lake City	OP			
			45	San Antonio	OP			

Legend

OP — operational
 UC — under construction
 FG — franchise granted
 FP — franchise pending
 PS — proposal submitted
 RP — request for proposals issued
 RPP — request for proposals pending
 MC — considering municipal ownership
 BP — beginning process

Source: International Thomson Communications Inc.